

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) An animal growth promoting composition, ~~characterised in being a liquid solution~~ comprising:

1.1 to 5% by weight of a sorbic acid or a sorbate calculated as sorbic acid,

45 to 93.9% by weight of formic acid, and

5 to 50% by weight of propionic acid,

in a liquid solution.

2. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The composition as defined in claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the sorbate is potassium sorbate.

3. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The composition as defined in claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the formic acid has a concentration of at least 70% by weight.

4. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The composition as defined in claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the formic acid is partly neutralised with ammonia.

5. **(currently amended)** A The composition as defined in claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the composition additionally contains water.

6. **(currently amended)** A composition as defined in ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, **characterised** in that the composition comprises 2 to 4 % by weight of sorbic acid or a sorbate calculated as sorbic acid, 70 to 90 % by weight of partly neutralised formic acid and 8 to 20 % by weight of propionic acid and 0 to 20 % by weight of water.

7. **(withdrawn)** A method for preparing an animal growth promoting composition, **characterised** in that sorbic acid or a sorbate is first dissolved in propionic acid, the solution being subsequently mixed into formic acid in order to form solution ready for use.

8. **(withdrawn)** A method as defined in claim 7, **characterised** in that the sorbate is potassium sorbate.

9. **(withdrawn)** A method as defined in claim 7, **characterised** in that the formic acid has a concentration of at least 70 % by weight.

10. (withdrawn) A method as defined in claim 7, **characterised** in that the formic acid is partly neutralised with ammonia.

11. (withdrawn) A method as defined in claim 7, **characterised** in that the solution ready for use comprises 2 to 5 % by weight of sorbic acid or a sorbate calculated as sorbic acid, 45 to 90 % by weight of formic acid and 8 to 50 % by weight of propionic acid.

12. (withdrawn) A method as defined in claim 11, **characterised** in that the solution ready for use additionally contains water.

13. (currently amended) ~~Use of~~ A method for promoting growth of animals, said method comprising administering the a composition defined in claim 1 as a growth promoter ~~for~~ to slaughter animals.

14. (currently amended) ~~Use of a composition~~ The method defined in claim 1 13, as a growth promoter, characterised ~~in that the growth promoter wherein the composition is~~ administered to the animals in connection with feeding.

15. **(currently amended)** ~~Use of a composition~~ The method defined in claim 14, as a growth promoter, characterised  
~~in that the growth promoter wherein the composition is added to~~  
animal feed in liquid form or absorbed into a solid carrier.

16. **(currently amended)** ~~Use of a composition~~ The method defined in claim 15, wherein as a growth promoter,  
~~characterised in that~~ the animal feed is selected ~~among~~ from  
organic products, ~~such as~~ feed raw materials, feed preparations,  
corn, vegetable and animal protein feed.

17. **(new)** The method defined in claim 16, wherein the  
organic products are one or more selected from the group  
consisting of feed raw materials, feed preparations, corn,  
vegetable and animal protein feed.

18. **(new)** An animal growth promoting composition,  
consisting essentially of:

1.1 to 5% by weight of a sorbic acid or a sorbate  
calculated as sorbic acid,

45 to 93.9% by weight of formic acid, and

5 to 50% by weight of propionic acid,

in a liquid solution.